



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, August 14, 2013

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (13-3859)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and Commissioner Susan Burton

Excused: Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D. and Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Call to Order. (13-3766)

Chairperson Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montañó led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Commissioner Bigby joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of the August 7, 2013 Minutes. (13-3765)

On motion of Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, seconded by Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and unanimously carried, the minutes of August 7, 2013 were approved with the following correction:

Page 2, Agenda Number 5, should read, Chairperson Montañó and Commissioner Andrews visited...

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Chairperson's Report on various items for August 14, 2013. (13-3767)

Chairperson Montaña shared the following Newspaper Articles:

- **Los Angeles Times:**
 - Bay Area juvenile hall sued (August 9, 2013)
 - Who'll step up? (August 10, 2013)
 - D.A. REJECTS INMATE ABUSE CLAIMS (August 11, 2013)
 - DCFS adding social workers (August 14, 2013)
- **Press Telegram:**
 - County Sheriff Baca vows to run again despite criticism (August 8, 2013)

Commissioner Burton also shared with the Commissioners an article from the Los Angeles Times entitled: "FCC to consider limiting costs of prison phone calls." The article was published on August 8, 2013.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Treasurer's Report for August 14, 2013. (13-3768)

Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$625.96.

4. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for August 14, 2013. (13-3769)

Staff advised the Commission that the Sunset Review Report is being reviewed by the Los Angeles County Audit Commission. A representative from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has been requested to attend the next Audit Commission's meeting on August 21, 2013, to answer some of the questions that the Commissioners have as it relates to the DCFS's role in resolving the unsatisfactory inspection findings that are reported by the SBC Commissioners.

As requested, staff also advised the Commission that the next meeting of

the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection is scheduled for September 12, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. Staff will email the meeting schedule details including the location as requested by the Commissioners.

- 5. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on August 14, 2013. (13-3770)**

Not In Compliance:

- **Vice Chairperson Bacio visited the Touch of Life Foundation, Page 39, #5, on August 8, 2013. He reported that all the physical deficiencies that were identified during DCFS' audit review have been corrected. However, the Needs and Services Plans were not available on-site for his review, because they were being reviewed by another member of their staff who was not present at the inspection site. Commissioner Bacio will return to the home to review the NSPs when they are available to ensure that all the deficiencies cited by the audit have been addressed.**

- 6. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from August 8, 2013 to August 13, 2013. (13-3771)**

During the reporting period, the following Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- **Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited Star View Children and Family Services, Page 38, #6, on August 13, 2013.**
- **Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited Lakewood Sheriff Station on August 12, 2013. They reported that the fire extinguishers were last inspected in May 2012. Also, the staffing of the station was inadequate.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Altadena Sheriff Station on August 9, 2013. She reported that within the next year, a new jail will be added to the facility that will hold 2-4 inmates. She also noted in her report that the fire extinguishers need to be inspected, the right bottom mattress in the trustee dorm needs to be replaced, and the blanket covering the window needs to be replaced with curtains.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Moore's Cottage, Page 27, #1, on August 13, 2013. She indicated in her report that bedrooms 2 and 3 need mattresses and the bathroom needs painting. Also, a youth did not have adequate clothing and had not received the clothing voucher from the DCFS social worker.**

Following the group home reports, there was a brief conversation regarding the placement of youth in group homes and their untimely release from the homes back to their families. A practice they say is not doing the youth any good. The Commissioners were in concurrence to consider making concrete recommendations to the Board of Supervisors based on the experiences, observations and findings when they conduct their inspections. The Commissioners were also in concurrence to further explore the possibility of inviting the Commissioners from the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection and the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Courts, to one of SBC's regular meetings to discuss the overall youth placement and early discharge from group and foster homes. Further discussion and action was continued to the September 4, 2013 SBC regular meeting.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

7. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (13-3772)

The Commission requested staff to place on the September 4, 2013, agenda the review of the 2013 SBC goals. The goals will be examined to determine if the Commission is meeting the set goals and also identify goals for 2014.

Public Comment

8. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (13-3773)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

9. Adjournment for the meeting of August 14, 2013. (13-3774)

There being no further business, Chairperson Montaña adjourned the meeting of August 14, 2013 at 11:25 a.m.